

CLAIMS

1. [Cancelled]
2. [Cancelled]
3. [Withdrawn] The clip of claim 1, wherein the clip's legs are angled with respect to an imaginary plane including the head.
4. [Previously amended] The clip of claim 21, wherein the clip is of wire or wire-like and the feet are substantially co-planar with the head.
5. [Withdrawn] The clip of claim 1, wherein the feet are angled with respect to an imaginary plane including the head.
6. [Cancelled]
7. [Cancelled]
8. [Currently Amended] The clip of claim [1] 21, wherein the legs are spring-loaded to separate from one another so as to each engage an opposing surface member.
9. [Withdrawn] The clip of claim 1, wherein at least part of each leg is twisted about a corresponding part of the other leg.
10. [Previously amended] The clip of claim 21, wherein the head is formed in a shape selected from the group consisting of rings, ellipsoids, and multi-sided shapes.
11. [Previously amended] The clip of claim 21, wherein the said material is composed of a high-strength, corrosion-resistant material.

12. [Original claim] The clip of claim 11, wherein the material is selected from the group consisting of stainless steel, brass, aluminum, and plastic.
13. [Currently amended] The clip of claim [21] 11, wherein the clip is composed of a spring-tempered stainless steel material.
14. [Cancelled]
15. [Cancelled]
16. [Withdrawn] The clip of claim 15, wherein at least one of the feet terminates in a feature pointing back in the general direction of the head.
17. [Withdrawn] The clip of claim 16, wherein the feature is a tyned or beveled end.
18. [Withdrawn] The clip of claim 1, wherein the feet diverge in a curve-like geometry.
19. [Withdrawn] The clip of claim 18, wherein at least one of the feet terminates in a feature pointing back in the general direction of the head.
20. [Withdrawn] The clip of claim 19, wherein the feature is a tyned or beveled end.
21. [Currently presented] A clip for securing objects to a top surface of a deck having spaced apart, and parallel to each other, elongated deck members with top and bottom surfaces and being of substantially uniform thickness, with sides of adjacent ones of the members substantially parallel to each other and spaced by [a] small gaps in relation to member thickness, comprising:
 - an elongated wire of high strength, corrosion resistant material,
 - the wire being shaped to provide an aperture forming closed head and leg portions extending therefrom, closely spaced to and essentially parallel to each other, and

terminating at distal ends in feet orthogonal to the legs forming[,] outward extending portions, all in a common plane

the legs being of a length such that the wire clip can be inserted into one of said gaps down between spaced adjacent deck members with its said plane substantially parallel to the sides of those members past the full thickness thereof and then partially rotated and pulled upwards so the feet bear up against bottoms of those deck members and the aperture head also clears the members, and

the aperture head and total span of the feet both being larger than the gap between said adjacent deck members and impassable through the gap unless the clip is oriented with its said plane substantially parallel to the sides of the deck members on both sides of the gap.

22. [Currently amended] Multiple clips, each made as recited in claim 21, in combination with a deck having spaced similar members with sides parallel to each other and adjacent members separated by small gaps in relation to member thickness,

the clips having their aperture head portions on top of the adjacent members and orthogonal thereto and feet below the members and orthogonal to the members to grip the members' undersides when a pulling up load is applied to the heads.

23. [Previously presented] The combination of claim 22 wherein the members are at least one inch thick and the clips' legs are at least as long as the thickness of the members.

24. [Currently amended] The clip of claim 1 wherein the legs are at least one inch long.

25. [Currently presented] A clip for securing objects to a top surface of a dock having spaced apart and parallel to each other, elongated deck members of substantially uniform thickness with sides of adjacent ones of the members substantially parallel to each other and spaced by [a] small gaps in relation to member thickness comprising:

an elongated wire of high strength, corrosion resistant material,

the wire being shaped to provide forms an aperture forming closed head and elongated leg portions extending therefrom closely spaced and essentially parallel to each

other and terminating at distal ends in feet orthogonal to the legs and thus forming outward extending portions, all in a common plane,

the legs being of a length such that the wire clip can be inserted into one of said gaps down between spaced adjacent dock members with its said plane substantially parallel to the sides of those members past the full thickness thereof and partially rotated and pulled upwards so the feet bear up against bottoms of those members and the aperture head clears the tops of those members, and

the aperture head and total span of the feet both being larger than the gap between said adjacent dock members and impassable through the gap unless the clip is oriented with its said plane substantially parallel to the sides of the dock members.

26. [Currently presented] Multiple clips, each made as recited in claim 25, in combination with a dock having spaced similar members with sides parallel to each other and adjacent members separated by small gaps in relative to member thickness,

the clips having their heads on top of the adjacent members and orthogonal thereto and feet below the members and orthogonal to the members to grip the members' undersides when pulling up load is applied to the heads.

27. [Currently amended] The combination of claim [20] 26 wherein the members are at least two inches thick and the clip legs are at least as long as the thickness of the members.

28. [Currently amended] A method of securing objects to a top surface of a deck or a dock having spaced apart parallel elongated members of substantially uniform thickness with sides of adjacent ones of the members substantially parallel to each other, adjacent members being spaced by [a] small gaps in relation to member thickness, comprising:

(a) providing multiple clips, each made of elongated wire of high strength, corrosion resistant material, [the] each such wire being formed with an aperture forming closed head and leg portions extending therefrom closely spaced to and essentially parallel to each other and terminating at distal ends in feet orthogonal to the legs and thus forming outward extending portions, all in a common plane, such that the wire can be inserted down into one said gap between spaced adjacent members with its plane parallel to the sides of those members past the full thickness thereof, the aperture head and total

span of the feet being larger than the space between said adjacent member and impassable through the space between adjacent deck members unless the clip is oriented substantially parallel to the sides of the head members and the legs being at least as long as the thickness of such members,

(b) inserting the multiple clips into one or more of said gaps between adjacent deck members so that legs are bounded by the spaced members and the head and feet are clear of them, partially rotating the clip so the head and feet are substantially orthogonally oriented to the direction of elongation of the members, and

(c) tying one or more ropes or cords to aperture heads of spaced such inserted and rotated clips and using such ropes or cords to cover or tie down one or more objects to be secured to the deck or dock.